

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 31)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 12x + 63 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-12) \pm \sqrt{(-12)^2 - 4(1)(63)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-12) \pm \sqrt{144 - 252}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{-108}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{-36 \cdot 3}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm 6\sqrt{3}i}{2}$$

$$x = 6 \pm 3\sqrt{3}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $-2 + 7i$ and $8 - 6i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (-2 + 7i) \cdot (8 - 6i) \\ & -16 + 12i + 56i - 42i^2 \\ & -16 + 12i + 56i + 42 \\ & -16 + 42 + 12i + 56i \\ & 26 + 68i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 - x + 6$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 1)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & -6 & -1 & 6 \\ 1 & & 1 & -5 & -6 \\ \hline & 1 & -5 & -6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 1)(x^2 - 5x - 6)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 1)(x - 6)(x + 1)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 4)^2 \cdot (x + 1)^2 \cdot (x - 2) \cdot (x - 5)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

